

## **HomeCare Works**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

**Question: How will the HomeCare Works Program meet the needs of NH seniors and individuals with disabilities?**

**Answer:** The HomeCare Works Program will assist community providers to deliver the highest quality of care to support the needs of seniors and individuals with disabilities to continue living independently in their own homes and community settings. A partnership between the NH Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) and community-based care providers throughout the state will develop and deliver on-the-job training and a system of supports as an incentive for new individuals to join the ranks of home care workers and meet the needs of NH's aging and disabled populations.

**Question: How will the quality of the workforce be maintained to ensure resources for NH's short- and long-term in-home health care needs?**

**Answer:** Employers will provide on-the-job training to ensure recruited participants are trained to industry standards. Participants will transition from training to employment with a continued focus on career advancement. Opportunities offered to participants include homemaker and home health care worker with supports to continue advancement as Licensed Nursing Assistants, Licensed Practical Nurses, Registered Nurses or other health care positions. As participants move on to more advanced jobs, employers will continue to receive staffing referrals and training reimbursements for entry-level positions.

**Question: Who can participate in the HomeCare Works training program?**

**Answer:** Income-eligible individuals participating in the NH Employment Program may participate if they have a career goal of working within the health care industry serving the independent living needs of the elderly and/or disabled within home- or community-based locations.

**Question: How are participants selected into the HomeCare Works training program?**

**Answer:** The NH Employment Program (NHEP) selects individuals who are ideal candidates for careers in the home healthcare field based on criteria developed by NHEP and a network of local agencies. This network serves in an advisory capacity as well as an employment link to the health care community. The application process includes both formal and informal career decision-making assessments as well as criminal background and job readiness screening.

**Question: How will the HomeCare Works program be funded?**

**Answer:** The program invests federal dollars in combination with other existing contracted job readiness services that currently assist participants of the NH Employment Program.

**Question: How is job readiness determined for new in-home health care professionals?**

**Answer:** Through the on-the-job training model, each candidate is comprehensively trained and supervised by their employer. Job readiness for performing in-home health care is based on candidates successfully demonstrating satisfactory performance during their orientation and throughout the on-the-job training period.

**Question: How can community-based care providers receive referrals for job openings?**

**Answer:** In the pilot regions of Berlin and Manchester, community-based care providers may list their job openings with the NH Employment Program staff at the local NH Works One-Stop Career Centers.

**For more information about the HomeCare Works program, application and/or eligibility requirements call (603) 271-4860.**